

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-10, and 12-16 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 3, 9 and 12 being independent. Claims 1, 3-10, and 12-16 have been allowed and are now in condition for issuance. Claim 3 has been amended to address a minor grammar/syntax issue and is not a narrowing amendment. The specification has been amended to insert a summary of *allowed* independent claims 1, 3, 9 and 12 into the Summary of the Invention section, therefore does not add new matter. Furthermore, the specification has been amended at several paragraphs to make the drawings and specification more consistent, revise spelling, and/or to clarify usage of certain terms. For example, the container authentication server may also be referred to as a container verification server, which was present in the specification as originally filed. The amendments to the specification and to the claims do not add new matter. Independent claims 2 and 11 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer, to permit the allowed claims to issue as a patent, and in view of Applicants' right to file a continuation application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Traversal of §101 Rejection

Claims 2 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

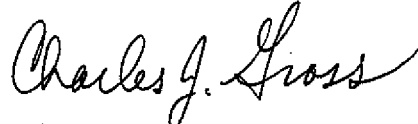
Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the reasons set forth in the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection, claims 2 and 11 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer, to permit the remaining claims to issue as a patent.

The 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection should now be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that all the rejections have been properly addressed and traversed, and the pending claims are now clearly in condition for allowance and issuance. Prompt and favorable reconsideration is requested of the application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicants hereby make a written petition for extension of time if needed. Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 23-1951.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles J. Gross".

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